

of college women participating in competitive athletics has gone from fewer than 32,000 to over 110,000 in 1994-95. Before title IX, fewer than 300,000 high school girls played competitive sports. By 1996, that number had climbed to almost 2.4 million.

Today, women across America are taking bats, lacrosse sticks, and javelins to the glass ceiling—shattering the myth that there are “men’s” sports and there are “women’s” sports. But a quarter-century after title IX’s enactment, there is still much more to be done. According to a recent NCAA study, only 23 percent of all current college athletic budgets are allocated to women, and women receive only 38 percent of athletic scholarship dollars. Only 27 percent of funding spent to recruit new athletes target women. In high-school athletic competitions, there are two boys to every one girl participating.

The Fair Play Act, which we introduced to mark the 25th anniversary of Title IX, is designed to strengthen this important legislation and therefore enhance women’s athletic and educational opportunities. Under current law, colleges and universities are required to compile information about their men’s and women’s athletic programs, including participation rates, operating and recruitment budgets, the availability of scholarships, revenues generated from athletic programs, and coaches’ salaries. They are required to update this information annually and make it available to prospective students and others upon request. Because there is no central repository for this information, however, it is difficult for students to obtain and evaluate it or put it into context.

The Fair Play Act is designed to correct this by directing colleges and universities to send information they already collect on their men’s and women’s athletic programs to the Department of Education, and directs the department to publish an annual report and make this information widely available by distributing the annual report to high schools, and establishing a toll free number and a web site. This bill will give students and families access to the kind of information they need to make informed decisions about where to go to school, and will help the Department of Education enforce title IX compliance in the area of athletics.

The first 25 years of title IX have been an enormous success. Now, it’s time for us to help millions of other girls and women get off the bleachers, the sidelines, and the viewing stands and onto the fields, the pitchers’ mounds, and the courts. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and look forward to seeing what the next 25 years hold for women’s accomplishments in sports.●

MARVIN H. POPE

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, our age has lost a scholar of epic achieve-

ment and range with the passing of Marvin H. Pope of the Yale Divinity School. A Biblical scholar of unsurpassed originality and range, he died at age 80 in the First Church of Round Hill, Greenwich, CT, just after he and his wife Ingrid had read a passage from the Bible for the congregation. He was an effervescent member of the American Schools of Oriental Research, where he will be mourned as well as celebrated.

As was said about Job, it could be said of Marvin H. Pope: “. . . thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.” I ask that an article on Marvin Pope, from the New York Times be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the New York Times, June 1997]

MARVIN POPE, 80, PROFESSOR AND AUTHORITY ON ANCIENT UGARIT

(By Holcomb B. Noble)

Marvin H. Pope, a retired Yale professor who was one of the world’s leading authorities on Ugarit, the ancient city in Syria where excavations shed important light on the ancient Scriptures, died on Sunday at First Church of Round Hill in Greenwich, Conn. He was 80.

He and his wife had just finished reading passages from the Bible to the congregation and returned to their pew when he collapsed.

Mr. Pope was a professor of Near Eastern languages and civilizations from 1949 to 1986 and taught at the Yale Divinity School and in the religious studies department.

In addition, he helped prepare the first major revision of the King James Version of the Bible, the Revised Standard Version, in the 1940’s. In the 1980’s he worked with others advising the National Council of Churches on the New Revised Standard Version, which removed some traditional language regarded as sexist. These are the two versions used in most Protestant churches.

Many of Mr. Pope’s contributions to the study of the Hebrew text of the Bible and to modern English translations stemmed from a day in 1928 when a farmer plowing a field in northern Syria struck what he thought was a stone. It emerged, instead, as part of the extensive remains, uncovered by archeologists over the next year, of a cosmopolitan city on the Mediterranean that had thrived in 2000 B.C. but had been ransacked and burned in about 1200 B.C.

Among the discoveries were Ugaritic art and clay tablets whose language was similar to biblical Hebrew, of which Mr. Pope, over the years, became a major translator. They added significant new meanings, nuances and detail to the early writings of the Old Testament and the culture of their time. The tablets were traced to a period from 1500 B.C. to 1180 B.C.

Mr. Pope’s work on the tablets resulted in his retranslations from the ancient Hebrew of the entire books of Job and the Song of Songs, and a lengthy commentary about them both, published in 1973 and 1977 by the Anchor Bible Series. Robert R. Wilson, a professor of religious studies at Yale, said those two translations were “the brilliant works of a master scholar” and added to the general understanding of an age and its poetry.

Scholars said that one of the difficulties in translating the early tablets was that the words had been crammed onto the surfaces with less regard for their legibility than whether they would fit. It was often difficult to determine, as a result, which line of poetry followed which. Mr. Pope was able to ar-

range the lines in proper sequence and poetic form.

Another difficulty was that the meanings of the first lines of the verses tended to be echoed in the second lines but with rarer language. Mr. Pope was one of the few able to capture the meaning of the rarer passages.

He visited the site of the 1929 excavations, near the modern town of Latakia, north of Damascus, though most of his studies took place in Paris, where the hundreds of tablets were put on display.

A man whose wit made him popular among generations of Yale students, he said that one of his findings was that Baal, chief god of the Ugarits, was not always chief, as scholars had thought, but had maneuvered to take over from the god El, whom he kicked further upstairs.

Marvin Hoyle Pope was born on June 23, 1916, in Durham, N.C., the son of Charles and Bessie Cleveland Sorrell Pope. He earned a bachelor’s degree in 1938 at Duke University, where he was signed up by mistake for a course in Hebrew. He remained in the course, which led him to a master’s degree in Semitic languages and literature in 1939. He received a doctorate from Yale in 1949.

His first wife, Helen Thompson Pope, died in 1979.

In addition to his wife, Ingrid Bloomquist Pope, he is survived by a son, Marvin Jr., and a daughter, Beverly, both of New Haven; three stepchildren, Dennis Bloomquist of Great Falls, VA, Diane B. Connelly of Shaker Heights, OH, and Laurel B. Shields of Austin, TX.; a sister, Mary Gladys Hodges of Durham, NC and eight grandchildren.●

BIOMATERIALS ACCESS ASSURANCE ACT

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise to speak today on Senate bill 364, the Biomaterials Access Assurance Act, which I am proud to cosponsor. I have long been a proponent for civil justice reform and other legislative measures relating to product liability. As an original cosponsor of product liability reform legislation (S. 648), I have long supported the biomaterials liability reform provisions contained in it. I am also pleased to cosponsor those provisions as a separate measure, although in my view we need both general product liability reforms and biomaterials liability reforms.

This Nation’s tort system is in dire need of repair. To maintain the status quo is not only costing consumers millions of dollars each year but also many lives will be lost if change does not occur soon. The Biomaterials Access Assurance Act approaches the subject of tort reform from a different perspective—the perspective of millions of Americans who face life-threatening diseases. These are the people who have the most to gain and everything to lose if Congress refuses to listen to their pleas.

The purpose of this act is straightforward. S. 364 attempts to gain a foothold on our legal system’s slippery slope by shielding companies who supply raw materials to manufacturers of life-saving medical devices. The Biomaterials Access Assurance Act will prevent the impending shortage of biomaterials suppliers by permitting these companies to be quickly dismissed from a lawsuit provided they had no part in the manufacture or selling of a